



**NIFA Veterinary Medicine
Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)**

National Institute of Food and Agriculture
US Department of Agriculture
OMB Information Collection
Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013

Veterinarian Shortage Situation Nomination Form

To be completed by the chief State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or his/her designee

Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP)

Nomination of Veterinarian Shortage Situations for the Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program (VMLRP) Authorized Under the National Veterinary Medical Service Act (NVMSA)

Note: Please submit one separate nomination form for each position. See solicitation for number of nominations permitted for your state or insular area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage Area for this Nomination

Note: If this nomination is for a public practice position, please provide the location of the home office or the center of service area.

Location of Veterinary Shortage: **Stephenson County Illinois**

(e.g., County, State/Insular Area)

Center of Service Area or

Location of Position: **Freeport, Illinois 61032**

(e.g., Address or Cross Street, Town/City, and Zip Code)

Type of Veterinary Practice Area/Discipline/Specialty

☐ Type I Shortage: Private Practice

Food Animal Medicine (at least 80 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other _____

☐ Type II Shortage: Private Practice – Rural Area

Food Animal Medicine (at least 30 percent time)

Please select **one or more** specialties requested for this position:

- ☐ Beef Cattle
- ☐ Dairy Cattle
- ☐ Swine
- ☐ Poultry
- ☐ Small Ruminant
- ☐ Other : _____

☒ Type III Shortage: Public Practice (at least 49 percent time*)

Employer: **State of Illinois** Position Title: **Animal Health and Welfare Field Veterinarian**

Please select **one or more** specialty/disciplinary areas.

- ☐ Food Safety
- ☐ Public Health
- ☐ Epidemiology
- ☒ Other: **Regulatory field veterinarian with potential to be trained as a FADD**

Please describe the objectives of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation as well as being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

The primary objective of veterinarians in this position is the protection of the Illinois livestock herd from diseases of regulatory significance as well as exotic and emerging domestic diseases and foreign animal diseases. Additional objectives include educating practicing veterinarians, livestock producers, auction market operators, livestock dealers and others on topic such as disease control and recognition, biosecurity, and state animal health laws and regulations. This area of the state is relatively livestock dense, and as such, will benefit by having a regulatory veterinarian located in this area of the state.

Please describe the activities of a veterinarian meeting this shortage situation and being located in the community, area, state/insular area, or position requested above (limit your response to 200 words or less).

State regulatory field veterinarians are responsible for completing all animal health associated duties in their assigned areas. These duties include conducting disease investigations and performing field epidemiology for all state / federal cooperative disease programs. They are responsible for contacting and working with livestock owners regarding state disease control programs and provide testing and educational assistance when appropriate. These veterinarians are responsible for monitoring reportable livestock disease occurrence in their assigned areas. Veterinarians that are further trained as Foreign Animal Disease Diagnosticians are responsible for completing foreign animal disease investigations, sample collection, biosecurity evaluations, and follow up work on suspected cases. Presently, there are no state regulatory field veterinarians in or near the proposed location. The ability to monitor, recognize, and respond to a domestic or foreign animal disease occurrence in this area is severely limited.

Please describe any past efforts to recruit and retain a veterinarian in the shortage situation identified above (limit your response to 100 words or less).

There have been no recent efforts to recruit and retain a regulatory veterinarian in this area. The ability to fill this position is subject to the State of Illinois hiring policies. At the present time, this position is not posted for filling. Nevertheless, when postings become available, it is becoming increasingly difficult to fill them due to competition and location of the posting.

Please describe the risk of this veterinarian position not being secured or retained. Include the risk(s) to the production of a safe and wholesome food supply and to animal, human, and environmental health not only in the community but in the region, state/insular area, nation, and/or international community (limit your response to 250 words or less).

The risks of not having a regulatory veterinarian positioned in locations of high livestock density are high. The key to containment and management or eradication of any disease situation is early and accurate recognition, diagnosis, isolation, and movement control. Regulatory veterinarians are an integral part of this process. The area that this veterinarian is positioned in has a high density of dairy and beef cattle as well as swine. It is also located closely to state borders and interstate movement is a daily occurrence. It is imperative that a regulatory veterinarian be readily available for consultation, sampling and diagnosis of diseases of regulatory significance. Not securing this position would leave a large, important area of livestock production in this state void of the expertise of a trained regulatory veterinarian. Left unchecked or unidentified, a disease outbreak in this area could have disastrous consequences.

Please indicate whether you consider this situation/position a candidate for a "service in emergency" agreement (limit your response to 100 words or less). Please see solicitations for additional information regarding the obligation of participants who enter into the "Service in Emergency" agreement.

Authorized State or Insular Area Animal Health Official or designee:

Name: Mark J. Ernst

Title: State Veterinarian

Organization: Illinois Department of Agriculture

Email: mark.ernst@Illinois.gov

Telephone Number: 217-782-4944
(Area code required)

Public reporting for OMB control number 0524-0046 is estimated to average two hours, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information, unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to NIFA, OEP, 800 9th St. SW, Washington, DC 20024, Attention Policy Section. Do not return the completed form to this address.

OMB Information Collection Approval No.: 0524-0046
Expiration Date: 8/31/2013